

## BIG DEATH RATE IN PLAGUE LAID TO HIGH HUMIDITY

Few Will Give Blood and  
Shortage of Serum  
May Result.

## SCHOOL OPENING DATE TO BE SET TO-DAY

Epidemic Makes Record in  
Fatal Results, but Is  
Waning.

Thirty more cases and seven more deaths were reported by the Department of Health yesterday than on Monday. The new cases numbered seventy-three and the deaths thirty-two. These figures, however, are lower than those of any other Tuesday since June 27.

Figures showing that the death rate of the infantile paralysis epidemic has almost doubled within the last seven weeks and is now greater than that of any other plague outbreak of which there is any record were made public yesterday by Dr. John S. Billings, Deputy Commissioner of Health. During the week ended August 29 the death rate was 31 per cent, a rise of 15 per cent since the week ended July 13. The rate for the entire epidemic up to this morning is 23.89.

From the beginning of the epidemic, in early July, the death rate has been very high. While in 1907 the rate for the entire epidemic was but 10 per cent, during the week ended July 11, the present epidemic, it was 18 per cent. The rate dropped two points on the following week, but in the next seven days it jumped eleven points. It declined then to 23 per cent and remained at that point during the three weeks ended August 1, 8 and 15, and then jumped again to 27 per cent for the week ended August 22. This was followed by the jump to 31 per cent for the week ended yesterday.

Reason for Increase.

Dr. Billings said that the increasing death rate is giving the Department of Health much anxiety, but that it has been impossible to discover a reason. Virtually the only one so far advanced is the excessive humidity of the last few weeks. This is borne out by charts of the department. Officials of the department also pointed out that in epidemics of all diseases there appear to be years in which the death rate is much higher than in others.

Health Commissioner Haven Emerson said yesterday that a definite date for the opening of the public schools will be announced to-morrow following the meeting of the Medical Advisory Board of the Health Department. The Commissioner said he considered it very unlikely, in view of the constantly decreasing number of new cases, that the board would recommend a farther postponement beyond September 25.

At the offices of the Board of Health it was said that the word had been unofficially passed around that the schools would open on September 25. William G. Wilcox, president of the Board of Education, issued an order yesterday directing the teachers not to report until Monday, September 11, on which date the sessions of the Teachers' Institute will begin. Principals and clerks, however, were ordered to report on September 6. Mr. Wilcox also announced that he has decided to postpone the dates for the registration of pupils until the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of the week preceding the opening of the schools.

Dr. Emerson said yesterday that he considered the day's report of new cases, although showing an increase over that of Monday, as another indication that the epidemic is burning itself out. The figures show fewer cases than were reported on any other Tuesday since June 27, at the beginning of the epidemic, when forty-four new cases and nine deaths were listed. On Tuesday, July 4, there were ninety-three cases and fifteen deaths; on July 11 there were 195 cases and thirty-two deaths; on July 18 there were 121 cases and twenty-five deaths; 150 cases and twenty-eight deaths on July 25; 120 cases and fifty-five deaths on August 1; 183 cases and fifty-two deaths on August 8; 163 cases and thirty-nine deaths on August 15; 118 cases and thirty-nine deaths on August 22.

Age Groups in Disease.

The Department of Health completed yesterday the tabulating in age groups of the ninety-four persons over sixteen years of age who are in the hospitals or quarantined with poliomyelitis. By boroughs they are:

Manhattan—Women—One 23 years old, four 17, two 15, two 28, one 26, two 32, one 33, two 35, one 36, one 37, one 38, one 39, one 40, one 41, one 42, one 43, one 44, one 45, one 46, one 47, one 48, one 49, one 50, one 51, one 52, one 53, one 54, one 55, one 56, one 57, one 58, one 59, one 60, one 61, one 62, one 63, one 64, one 65, one 66, one 67, one 68, one 69, one 70, one 71, one 72, one 73, one 74, one 75, one 76, one 77, one 78, one 79, one 80, one 81, one 82, one 83, one 84, one 85, one 86, one 87, one 88, one 89, one 90, one 91, one 92, one 93, one 94, one 95, one 96, one 97, one 98, one 99, one 100.

Brooklyn—Women, two 16, three 17, one 19, one 21, three 22, one 23, one 25, one 26, two 28, one 29, one 30, one 32, one 37, one 40; men, one 17, three 18, one 21, one 24, one 25, two 26, one 27, one 29, one 30, one 32, one 34, one 37, one 46, one 52.

The Bronx—Women, one 19, one 20; men, one 20, one 26, one 32, one 35.

Queens—Women, one 16, one 22, one 25; men, one 25, one 35, one 46.

Richmond—Women, one 25, one 30; men, one 17.

The larger number of patients being discharged daily from the hospitals has relieved the department from worry concerning the possibility of a shortage of beds. Almost as many were discharged yesterday as were brought into the hospitals, and within a few days the number of discharged patients is expected to exceed daily the number who enter the hospitals. Commissioner Emerson said yesterday that 502 patients have been discharged from the hospitals since the beginning of the epidemic.

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## INFANTILE PARALYSIS IN ALL BOROUGHES

	New Cases.	Deaths.	Mon.	Tues.	Mon.	Tues.
Manhattan.....	20	30	11	10		
Bronx.....	7	6	3	2		
Brooklyn.....	7	25	10	14		
Queens.....	8	12	1	4		
Richmond.....	1	0	0	2		
Totals.....	43	73	25	32		
Total cases to date.....	7,904					
Total deaths to date.....	1,889					

tients have left the hospitals to date— from the Queensborough Hospital, 80 from Riverside, 99 from Kingston Avenue and 317 from Willard Parker.

Response to the numerous appeals sent out by the Department of Health and various hospitals for former paralysis patients to give their blood for the preparation of immune serum has been disappointing thus far, and only a very small portion of the quantity of blood needed has been obtained. To further facilitate the work the citizens' committee, headed by Lewis L. Delafield, jr., yesterday sent out a letter to physicians and heads of hospitals throughout the city urging them to cooperate in the task.

Need of Blood Is Great.

"So great is the need for the blood," said Mr. Delafield, "that the citizens' committee is willing to pay, not exceeding \$5 in any case, for the expenses and compensation for loss of time to persons who will give blood. These payments are to be made in deserving cases on recommendation of the Board of Health, and apply to all who have had the disease. In any case the committee will provide automobiles to take the former patient to a hospital where blood may be drawn."

The committee and the Department of Health have already made appointments with eight or nine former patients to take them in automobiles to hospitals. No blood was obtained yesterday by either Bellevue Hospital or the State Department of Health, which has equipped a station at the Volunteer Hospital.

At the Brooklyn office of the Health Department, Dr. Samuel Parsons obtained eight ounces from two persons, one of whom was James Dunne, ten years old, of 1914 Eighth Avenue, Brooklyn. The other was a man thirty-eight years old, who refused to give his name. He gave six ounces and the Dunne boy two.

Dr. Abraham Zingher obtained sixteen ounces of blood at the Willard Parker Hospital from Alexander Knobel, thirty-four years old; eight ounces from a woman thirty-three years old, and ten ounces from a man from Louisville, Ky.

Contributions amounting to \$744 were received yesterday by the Department of Health for the Fund to Purchase Braces for Crippled Children. Among the contributors were Miss Ethel Baer and Bernice, \$100; Mrs. W. P. Hamilton, \$200; Frank H. Henry, Mrs. J. R. Foster, Mrs. Morton L. Tearey, Elizabeth L. Godwin, Friday Afternoon Sewing Circle and Henry W. Guernsey, \$25 each, and Mrs. Fitch W. Smith, \$27. The fund now totals \$19,669.49.

Dr. Charles E. Banks, senior surgeon of the United States Public Health Service, said yesterday that he believes the government physicians will have completed their work in New York by September 15 and will be able to leave. By that time Dr. Banks expects the cases to be down to about ten a day, a figure which, while not normal, is practically negligible.

More Cases Outside City.

Seventy-five new cases of paralysis were reported yesterday in the state outside of New York City. Since the epidemic began there have been 1,941 cases and 211 deaths reported to the state health authorities. Many of the cases reported yesterday, health officials said, were from Long Island towns and should have been reported Monday. The cases listed yesterday are: Four in Yonkers; three each in New Rochelle and Paterson; two each in Lynbrook, White Plains, Troy and Utica; one each in Katonah, Skaneateles, Mexico, Southfield, Mamaroneck, Fulton, Croghan, Fultonville, New York Mills, Windham, Ossining, Wilms, Ithaca, Fonda, Summit, Staatsburgh, East Norwich, Oyster Bay, Great Neck, Munson, Huntington, East Northport, Shoreham, Southold, Good Ground, Babylon, Farmingdale, Oenida and Gouverneur, Brookhaven, Copague, Sayville, Lawrence, Hicksville, Hempstead, East Hempstead, Sea Cliff, Valley Stream, Locust Valley, Little Falls, De Ruyter, Mohawk, Peekskill, North Tarrytown, Johnstown, Fayetteville, Randall, Canajoharie, Central Square and Whitesboro.

One hundred and thirteen new cases were reported in New Jersey yesterday, including forty-three from Newark and seven from Atlantic City which were not listed in Monday's reports. The other new cases are: Six in West Orange, five in Orange, four each in Jersey City and Kearny, three each in

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Out in Mississippi, the home of some pretty bad roads, there is a Hupmobile owner who has erected signs at either end of what is the worst stretch of sand in the State.

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Randolph Township, Rahway, Ashbury Park and East Orange; two each in Fort Lee, Northvale, Bloomfield, Trenton and Morristown; one each in Egg Harbor Township, Ventnor City, Cresskill, Rutherford, Camden, Centre Township, Clementon Township, Millville, Irvington, Livingston, Montclair, West Deptford Township, Woodbury, Bayonne, East Newark, Dunellen, Sayreville Township, Freehold, Ocean Township, Dover, Paterson and Plainfield.

Governor Fielder of New Jersey sent to the state health authorities yesterday \$1,500 from his emergency fund of \$10,000. The money will be used to enforce the quarantine regulations and pay inspectors employed in connection with the epidemic. William Chew, president, and J. C. Price, director, of the State Health Department, yesterday showed the Governor charts indicating that the epidemic is on the wane throughout New Jersey.

Addresses at which new cases were found in New York yesterday follow:

New Cases—Borough of Manhattan.

348 Madison Street, 163 Suffolk Street, 121 Livingston Street, 241 Montfort Street, 236 West Fourth Street, 340 East Fifth Street, 300 East Twenty-fifth Street, 440 East Eighteenth Street, 36 West Eleventh Street, 351 West Forty-first Street, 432 West Fifteenth Street, 415 West Eighteenth Street, 434 East Seventy-second Street, 277 East Seventieth Street, 174 West Sixty-fifth Street, 406 West Fiftieth Street, 3924 Broadway, 504 West Fifty-first Street, 338 West Forty-seventh Street, 635 Eighth Avenue, 448 West Fifty-fifth Street, 121 West Sixtieth Street, 110 Convent Avenue, 12 Amsterdam Avenue, 407 West Fifty-second Street, 68 Gansevoort Street, 182 East 101st Street, 19 East 113th Street, 44 East 123d Street, 1889 Lexington Avenue.

Deaths—Borough of Manhattan.

1832 Second Avenue, 30 East 106th Street, 456 Ninth Avenue, 81 Mulberry Street, 418 West Eighteenth Street, 220 West Sixty-seventh Street, 410 East Seventy-fifth Street, 2053 Eighth Avenue, 530 East Twelfth Street, 72 East 110th Street.

New Cases—Borough of Bronx.

605 East 138th Street, 883 East 165th Street, 822 East 167th Street, 1422 St. Lawrence Avenue, 931 Avenue St. John, St. Joseph's Hospital.

Deaths—Borough of Bronx.

423 East 169th Street, 3450 Lorillard Place.

New Cases—Borough of Brooklyn.

51 Ten Eyck Street, 114 Meserole Avenue, 315 Mauger Street, 746 Humboldt Street, 361 Bushwick Avenue, 1245 Willoughby Avenue, 176 Nostrand Avenue, 494 Myrtle Avenue, 767a Madison Street, 673 Jefferson Avenue, 514 Howard Avenue, 2025 Fulton Street, 33 Ellery Street, 377 Sackman Street, 168 Powell Street, 473 Pennsylvania Avenue, 454 Hinsdale Street, 638 Essex Street, 2041 Douglass Street, 85 Eighty-third Street, 421 Prospect Place, 33 East Thirty-first Street, 470 East Twenty-eighth Street, 1504 Flatbush Avenue, 127 Duffield Street.

Deaths—Borough of Brooklyn.

200 York Street, 752 Park Avenue, 486 Throop Avenue, 85 Eighty-third Street, 1900 Douglass Street, 1504 Flatbush Avenue, 248 Stockton Street, 423 Watkins Street, 33 Ellery Street, 1245 Willoughby Avenue, 752 McDonough Street, 31 Watkins Street, 1689 Irving Street, 42 Scholes Street.

New Cases—Borough of Queens.

352 Tenth Avenue, Astoria; 545 Eighth Avenue, Long Island City; 256 Twelfth Avenue, Astoria; 12 Kramer Court, Arverne; 1426 Gherardi Avenue, Woodhaven; 1416 Boyd Avenue, Woodhaven; 614 Palmetto Street, Ridgewood; 506 Onderdonk Avenue, Ridgewood; 66 Jensen Avenue, Maspeth; 131 Crown Street, Corona; 58 Fifty-first Street, Corona; 220 Tenth Street, College Point.

Deaths—Borough of Queens.

352 Tenth Avenue, Astoria; 228 Johnson Avenue, Maspeth; 31 Forty-seventh Street, Corona; 150 Clarence Avenue, Rockaway Beach.

New Cases—Borough of Richmond.

None.

Deaths—Borough of Richmond.

1571 Richmond Terrace, West New Brighton; Mount Loretta, S. I.

PLAGUE KILLS BRIDEGROOM

Salesman Taken to Hospital on Day Set for Wedding.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Aug. 29.—Stricken with infantile paralysis on the evening he was to wed Miss Helen Hammond, of Millbrook, Carl Pitcher, twenty-three years old, a salesman of this city, died to-night.

Pitcher and Miss Hammond were to have been married Sunday. Pitcher was taken ill Friday and removed to Vassar Hospital. Because he insisted upon being married he was taken to the home of the prospective bride's parents. There he became paralyzed and his case was diagnosed as infantile paralysis. On Sunday he was hurried back to the hospital, where he died to-night.

## WILSON SIGNS DEFENCE BILLS

Poses for Movies and  
Praises Work of  
Congress.

PHILIPPINES ACT  
ALSO MADE A LAW

President Calls It Satisfactory Advance Toward Independence.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Aug. 29.—Graphic evidence that the Administration is enthusiastically for preparedness was furnished at the White House to-day, when President Wilson, before a battery of movie cameras, signed the army

and navy appropriation bills and the Philippines measure. To members of the House and Senate Military and Navy Affairs committees and representatives from the War and Navy departments present the President outlined what the defence measures would do for the country.

"I cannot let an occasion like this pass," declared Mr. Wilson, "without saying something about the feelings with which I sign these bills. I think that the whole country will feel that this Congress has accomplished a very remarkable part of the programme of national defence."

Only one slight detail to bring home the realism of the little campaign drama staged for the benefit of doubtful voters was omitted. Gold pens used in signing important and history-making bills are usually very highly prized. Those with which the President had approved the Philippine bill and "the bill of lading" measure were presented, respectively, to Manuel Quezon, one of the two commissioners in Congress from the Philippine Islands, and Senator Pomeroy, of Ohio. But apparently none of the Democrats present wanted the pens used in signing the preparedness bills.

"This bill that I have signed for the army," said the President, "is merely the appropriation bill. It is not the bill by which we reorganized the army, you understand, but it does carry with it a much needed revision of the articles of war, and it does mean that the finances of the nation are to stand be-

hind the reorganization of the army and its use for adequate national defence.

"The navy bill is a very remarkable measure. Never before by a single act of legislation has so much been done for the creation of an adequate navy. Our navy has steadily grown. I think the development of that arm of force has always had the enthusiastic support of the nation. It is a matter of unusual gratification, therefore, that we should have been able at this time to do so much, to do it so well—as I believe it to be done in this bill—and to do it with such unanimity of support and opinion."

"The last bill, the bill of lading bill, I believe will be a most substantial assistance to the right conduct of both the commercial and financial business of the country."

"So that it is with great gratification that I am able to add my part to so many pieces of useful and public-spirited legislation. I am not accustomed to the kind of spotlight to which we have just been subjected, but I am very glad to have been caught at such acts."

In signing the Philippines bill President Wilson indicated that further steps toward the independence of the island might be taken in the near future.

Chairman Jones of the House Insular Affairs Committee, whose name the bill bears and who in an interview in the Tribune last week expressed his confidence that the Filipinos would be given their independence by 1921, was

delighted with this public expression by the President.

"I am highly gratified that the bill for which I fought so long has become law at last," said Mr. Jones. "I think it will give the Filipinos such a large measure of self-government that no granting of entire independence will be only a little step which the United States will not hesitate for many years to take."

After signing the bill the President said: "The Philippines bill excites peculiar feelings in me, because there have been times when the people of the Philippine Islands doubted our intention to be liberally just to them. I hope and believe that this bill is a sufficient earnest to them of our real intentions. It is a very satisfactory advance in our policy of extending to them genuine self-government and control of their own affairs. It is only by such means that any people come into contentment and into political capacity, and it is high time that we did this act of justice which we now have done."

Private Concerns Must Build Navy's Big Ships

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Aug. 29.—The United States government will not be prepared for at least a year and a half to undertake the construction of capital ships, naval officers declared to-day. Not only will all four of the battle-

ships on which bids were asked to-day be built in private yards, but the four battle cruisers authorized in the new navy bill will be built privately, and it is doubted that the navy yards can take a share of next year's construction.

Six million dollars is appropriated in the naval bill signed to-day for equipping navy yards for construction work, and the bill directs that the yards at Puget Sound, Philadelphia, Norfolk and Boston "shall be equipped for the construction of capital ships forthwith."

This provision, officers believe, will be ignored by Secretary Daniels, though he insisted on the inclusion of the item in this year's appropriations. It is declared that because of the shortage of skilled labor the Navy Department will not try to compete with private firms, and therefore will have no need of big battleship slips.

The enormous amount of construction to be contracted for this year will give shipbuilding in this country a big boost, naval officers believe. They point out that the yards are already employing every skilled shipbuilder they can get and that with the extra work of the navy they will have to train thousands of mechanics in the trade. At the same time they will have to enlarge their plants, which already are much larger than ever before. The United States, it is asserted, will be second only to England in shipbuilding facilities after the war.

# By Midnight Tuesday August 15th

Up to midnight August 15, a period of 7½ months, we sold and delivered more United States Automobile Tires than we sold during the entire twelve months of 1915—last year.

By August 16, we had passed, by several thousand casings, the sales total for 1915,—itself a year of steady sales increases.

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